

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03
AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 /087 W
-----092528 191910Z /70

R 182021Z OCT 77

FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9561

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 1717

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT: ICAO: ELECTION PRESIDENT/COUNCIL

1. KOTAITE OF LEBANON CHOSEN PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL BY ACCLAMATION
(WITHOUT VOTE). THERE WERE NO OTHER CANDIDATES.

2. AS REPORTED WHEN HE WAS ELECTED TO REPLACE BINAGHI MID-TERM
18 MONTHS AGO COUNCIL STUBBORNLY REFUSED TO
STAND WHEN KOTAITE ENTERED CHAMBERS. ALTHOUGH ATMOSPHERE MUCH
MORE FAVORABLE THS TIME, COUNCIL WAS AGAIN RELUCTANT AND REMAINED
SEATED EXCEPT FOR FRENCH REP WHO IMMEDIATELY STOOD AND
CLAPPED ENTHUSIASTICALLY. HE REMAINED STANDING ALONE UNTIL
KOTAITE HAD ALMOST REACHED CHAIR WHEN FEW OTHER MEMBERS
BEGAN RISING SLOWLY.

3. UK NOMINATED KOTAITE. ALTHOUGH NOMINATION SPEECH WAS
VERY LAUDATORY IT BEGAN WITH A REMINDER TO COUNCIL THAT IT HAD
MADE CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS AT THE TIME OF THE PREVIOUS ELECTION
(FYI: POINTEDLY REFERRING TO COUNCIL'S NOTATION THAT "ABOUT SIX
YEARS IS LONG ENOUGH FOR A PRESIDENT TO SERVE." END FYI)

4. ALTHOUGH KOTAITE HAS DONE EVEN BETTER JOB THAN MOST HAD
ANTICIPATED, COUNCIL REPS SOMETIMES EXPRESS CONCERN
BECAUSE OF HIS "WHEELING AND DEALING" APPROACH. ALTHOUGH
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HE HAS BEEN CAREFUL IN CONNECTION WITH ANY ARAB OR LEBANON
INTERESTS, IT IS WELL TO NOTE THAT THE RECENT
ASSEMBLY IS PROBABLY THE FIRST ONE THAT HAD NO CHAIRMAN
FROM MAJOR AVIATION STATE AND THE LEBANON DEL WAS PUT IN THE
CHAIR OF THE VERY IMPORTANT ECONOMIC COMMISSION. (JAMAICA,
PAKISTAN, SPAIN AND TANZANIA CHAIRED PLENARY/EXECUTIVE AND
COMMISSIONS.) HE HAS BEEN CAREFUL NOT TO OFFEND THE LDC GROUPS

PENDING HIS ELECTION AND HAS VERY MUCH CATERED TO THE FRENCH
SPEAKING INTERESTS NOW THAT HE HAS RETURNED COMFORTABLY FOR
3 YEARS IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER HE WILL FEEL HE NEED
NO LONGER CATER TO THE BLOCS, OR WHETHER HE WILL CONSIDER
HIMSELF TO BE BEYOND ANY PRESSURE/INFLUENCE FROM THE US AND
WESTERN STATES. ON THE WHILE, ON IMPORTANT MATTERS, HE HAS
BEEN EXTREMELY COOPERATIVE WITH US AND HELFPUL IN EVERY WAY.
HARPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESIDENT, ELECTIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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SAS ID: 876658
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Subject: ICAO: ELECTION PRESIDENT/COUNCIL
TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO, (KOTAITE, ASSAD)
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Type: TE
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